

4488
CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

SEEN BY THE
MEDICAL OFFICER



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR

1943

BY

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Part-time Assistant School Medical Officers.

ELIZABETH P. DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B. (*Relinquished duties, 24/5/43.*)
 MARY C. LYDON, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. & L.M., D.P.M. (*from 20/10/43.*)

Senior School Dental Officer.

T. H. PARSONS, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Whole-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

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* Temporary Officers.

† With H.M. Forces.

Part-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

J. A. BELL, L.D.S.
 J. P. BLACOE, L.D.S.
 H. W. MARTIN, L.D.S.
 A. E. WATSON, L.D.S.

Part-time Specialist Officers.

D. RANKINE, M.B., Ch.B. (*Oculist*).
Also Oculist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.

COURTENAY YORKE, M.D., F.R.C.S. (*Surgeon i/c of Aural Scheme, Aurist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.*)

B. L. MCFARLAND, M.D., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S.
(Orthopædic Surgeon).

F. C. DWYER, M.B., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S. (*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

F. HOPKINS, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O. (*Certifying Officer for Mentally Defectives*).

School Nurses, Etc.

Superintendent: MISS M. L. NICKSON.

Supervisor: MISS B. M. SPELLER.

Temporary Supervisor: MISS W. K. POOLE.

Also:—49 Permanent nurses.
 38 Temporary nurses.
 12 Auxiliary nurses.
 6 Part-time auxiliary nurses.
 2 Orthopædic nurses.
 14 Clinic helpers (includes 10 part-time).
 4 Dental attendants.

Chief Clerk.

MR. F. J. GELDART.

Also:—36 Clerks.

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER to the Education Authority for the Year ended 31st December, 1943.

Introduction.

1. The Medical Officer submits, herewith, his report on the work of the School Medical Service during the year 1943.

2. The Medical and Dental staffs have been further depleted owing to the demand of the Services with the result that at the end of the year, 8 School Medical Officers and 7 School Dental Officers had been called up since the commencement of the war. Furthermore, 3 School Dental Officers are seconded to certain Reception Areas.

With the considerably reduced medical staff available, which was equivalent to 11 during the year, it has not been possible to carry out the routine medical examination of the three age groups, and the intermediate group was therefore omitted. In order, however, to utilise the medical staff available to the best advantage, children in the intermediate age group were seen in the first place by the nurses, who referred to the doctors any cases which they considered required a medical examination, special attention being given to children shewing evidence of malnutrition and debility.

3. Although the principle of examining the entrants and leavers as routine cases was continued, it was not even possible to examine all the children due in these two groups, and in fact only a little more than half the number of cases were examined in 1943 compared with the previous year.

4. The medical and dental activities on behalf of the special schools children, and those in nursery classes, have been fully maintained, and special efforts have been made in dealing with scabies.

5. It is gratifying to report that whilst the scabies epidemic is still a serious matter, there is evidence of a definite decline in the number of cases as shewn by the fact that during the latter half of the year the weekly average of new cases diagnosed was approximately 200, compared with approximately 300 during the first six months.

6. In a report recently issued by nutritional experts working in London, Washington and Ottawa, it is stated that though on the one hand the average consumption of animal proteins and fats had been reduced during the war period, on the other hand, the average consumption of milk products and leafy green and yellow vegetables and potatoes had been increased, and with the exception of vitamin C the average supply of vitamins and necessary minerals in the diet was considered to be adequate.

The food has also been much better distributed and made better use of, particular attention having been given to the feeding of the children. It is not surprising, therefore, to read in the section dealing with nutrition that the school medical officers found no evidence of a decline in the nutrition of the children, which is a tribute to the benefits of dining centres, school milk, meals, and the rationing scheme.

7. Although there has been a reduction in the number of medical examinations of children in the elementary schools, it has been possible to carry out medical treatment on a reasonably satisfactory scale.

In the section dealing with dental treatment is given an illuminating example of the cumulative benefits arising from the regular dental treatment, for all the children in a school.

The following brief summary shews the number of defects treated during the year immediately preceding the war, and those treated during 1943.

Summary of Medical and Dental Treatment.

Defects Treated.	1938.	1943.
Defective Vision	5,763	4,640
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	1,225	519
Dental	29,985	18,723
Minor Ailments	44,003	32,005
Scabies	693	11,329
Orthopaedic	1,632	1,986

8. Much inconvenience, however, was experienced in connection with the scheme for the provision of spectacles, which was occasioned by the difficulty which the Committee's Opticians met with in obtaining the necessary supply of lenses. A number of the parents failed to appreciate the position, and attributed the delay solely to "bad management."

9. The work of ascertainment of mentally defectives is still seriously in arrears, the reason for this being that whereas at the commencement of the war, there were available for this work five experienced Certifying Officers, approved by the Board of Education, there are at present only two.

The present position is that it now takes about twelve months before any ordinary case can be dealt with, and many of the more urgent cases, though given priority, must wait their turn for several months.

10. The Medical Officer is indebted to the Director of Education for information supplied with regard to certain sections of this Report relating, in particular, to the work in connection with the Special Schools, Provision of Meals, and Juvenile Employment.

11. The statistical tables required by the Board of Education concerning the work carried out appear in Appendix "A" and Appendix "B."

NUTRITION.

12. On page 37 appears Table II which gives statistics relating to the nutrition of school children who were medically inspected as entrants and leavers. The eight-year-olds were not examined this year.

This table shews that, taking the age groups as a whole 6.0 per cent. of the children were considered to have excellent nutrition, 92.6 per cent. to have normal nutrition and 1.4 per cent. to have slightly sub-normal nutrition. These figures shew little variation from the figures given in the previous Annual Report.

13. The following are opinions expressed by some of the school medical officers on the question of the nutrition of the children:—

DR. CHANNON.

“I have little to add to the report I made last year. In that, I stated that I considered that there was no evidence of mass malnutrition where full advantage was being taken of school milk, meals, etc. There is, however, evidence of much parental neglect which leads to individual cases of malnutrition and to delinquency.”

DR. KEITH.

“In my opinion the general physical condition is as good as before the war, and being surprisingly well maintained. I think the provision of meals and milk is largely responsible.

The meals seem to be of particular benefit to children whose mothers complain that they ‘won’t eat’. I find their appetites are much improved by eating in company with other children.

Late hours are very prevalent, due to lack of parental control or interest, largely owing to mothers working, and there is a good deal of debility still on account of this, but on the whole the general health of all school children is well maintained.

In High Schools I can see no change at all in the physical condition of the children. It has always been good.”

DR. LACEY.

“Very good on the whole. The number of children found suffering from malnutrition is really quite small, and the cause of these few is probably late hours, which are very common indeed.”

DR. MORONEY.

“In my opinion the children in the nursery, elementary and higher schools are on the whole healthy and well nourished. The orange juice, cod liver oil, milk and meals in school are, I consider, a benefit to the children. On the whole there is very little anæmia.”

DR. WALTERS.

“There are signs that in this fifth year of war the nutrition of school children is not quite so good as it has been. There seems to be a certain amount of loss of muscular tone and a greater incidence of skin affections.

There are children who are pale and weary looking but while some of these are probably secondary (nutritional) anæmias, it is quite certain that a very definite proportion of these pale and weary looking children, lacking in muscular tone but with reasonably well-coloured mucous membranes are suffering as much at least from lack of sleep as from lack of food.

On the whole, the children in those schools where there is a school canteen are in better condition than others, but many parents still entertain a dislike of the ‘dinner centre’.”

PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK.

14. Dinners were provided for elementary school children daily except Sundays and Christmas Day.

During the year the output of two-course dinners for school children, supplied from the Central Kitchen and four auxiliary kitchens, has gradually increased. In addition, meals have been supplied from the electrically-equipped kitchen in Gateacre, from two British Restaurants and eight Ministry of Food Cooking Depots.

Steady progress in equipping schools for the serving of meals has been maintained, 44 additional school canteens having been opened during the year, making a total of 120 school canteens and dining centres in operation.

The number of dinners, free or on payment, supplied during the year was 3,976,811.

The number of individual children who were provided with dinners increased from 12,724 in January, 1943, to over 21,375 in December, 1943.

Details regarding this service at various intervening dates were as follows:—

	February, 1943.	May, 1943.	October, 1943.
No. of children present in school	86,612	89,780	93,168
Free meals.....	3,536	4,173	7,047
On full or part payment	11,319	11,836	13,686
Total No. of children supplied	14,855	16,009	20,733
Percentage of children in school receiving dinners	17.15%	17.83%	22.25%

(At the time of printing this Report in May, 1944, the percentage of children receiving school dinners had increased up to 25.7%).

The total number of free milk meals supplied during the year was 2,907,801.

The number of individual children who received it increased from 10,132 in January, 1943, to 13,086 in December, 1943.

The numbers of children receiving milk at various dates during intervening periods of the year were as follows:—

	February, 1943.	May, 1943.	October, 1943.
Free— $\frac{1}{3}$ pint	9,810	10,201	11,408
Free— $\frac{2}{3}$ pint	757	637	586
On payment— $\frac{1}{3}$ pint	43,750	44,448	46,649
On payment— $\frac{2}{3}$ pint or more	20,436	20,686	18,999
Total No. of children	74,753	75,972	77,642
Percentage of children in school receiving milk.....	86.30%	84.62%	83.33%

The slight fall in the percentage figures is due to the increase in the total number of children in attendance at schools on the days selected. This total increased from 86,612 in February, 1943, to 93,168 in October, 1943 (an increase of 7.5 per cent.).

EVERTON ROAD NURSERY SCHOOL.

15. The average number of children on the roll for the year was 150. Priority of admission continues to be given to those children whose mothers are engaged on war work.

During the year, 222 medical examinations of children were carried out, and it is interesting to record that not one case of sub-normal nutrition was discovered. Of the children examined, 18.5 per cent. were recorded as having excellent nutrition and 81.5 per cent. as of normal nutrition.

As a result of the medical examinations 33 were found to require treatment for various defects and 97 were required to be kept under observation, the most common defects being tonsils and adenoids and rickets.

The treatment facilities at the adjoining clinic for minor ailments, defective vision and orthopædic conditions were available and made full use of with definite benefit to the children's general health.

WAR-TIME NURSERY CLASSES.

16. During the year 1943, a further nine War-time Nursery Classes were established under the Liverpool Education Authority, making a total of 23 with accommodation for 1,110 children in all.

With the exception of one nursery class which is accommodated in one of the pre-fabricated huts supplied by the Ministry of Health, these classes are established in elementary school buildings.

Further proposals for the establishment of nursery classes were under consideration at the end of the year.

The school medical officers carried out 1,315 medical examinations of these children during the year, and they are generally agreed that the health of the children was satisfactory.

Amongst various defects discovered the most common were skin troubles, bronchitis, and enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and the treatment schemes at the clinics were made use of with good results. Twelve children who shewed evidence of squint were provided with spectacles, one child was operated upon for unhealthy tonsils, and a number of children received treatment at the various clinics for skin and ear troubles.

The nutrition of the children, as assessed clinically by the medical officers, was satisfactory, only 2·7 per cent. being assessed as below normal. They considered that the orange juice, cod liver oil, milk and meals in schools, and the daily rest were factors which definitely benefited the children.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

17. The following Table shews the work carried out under the dental scheme for children attending the Public Elementary Schools:—

TABLE 1.

	1941	1942	1943
Number of children examined in school	37,739	49,152	51,422
Number of children requiring treatment	29,691 (78·6%)	37,897 (77·1%)	36,515 (71·0%)
Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme	16,128 (54·6%)	22,262 (58·7%)	20,206 (55·3%)
Number of cases treated	14,830	19,317	18,723
Number of schools concerned	115	120	105

One more of the whole-time Dental Officers, Mr. I. Williams, was called up early in the year for service with the Armed Forces, making a total of 7 thus serving.

This additional depletion of the whole-time staff was, however, to some extent made good by the fact that Miss C. C. Sloan, one of the part-time staff, indicated her willingness to give whole-time service as a temporary Dental Officer, and she commenced full-time duties in May. As a result of these changes, the staff available through the year averaged the equivalent of 7·9 whole-time officers as against 8 in the previous year.

This number of officers is totally inadequate to attempt to offer routine treatment to a school population of over 100,000, although it would be sufficient to provide facilities for the extraction of aching teeth for them, if the time of the Dental Officers were to be devoted solely to this purpose. Fortunately, this problem of making the best use of the available staff of Dental Officers is to some extent simplified in Liverpool by the presence of a most efficient Dental Hospital where emergency treatment can be readily obtained.

18. From the point of view of justification for the time and money that has been spent on building up a constructive School Dental Scheme as well as that of the education of parents in matters of dental health it is felt, even in war-time, to be important that the clinics should be maintained as centres for the routine and complete treatment of such children as attend rather than to allow them to be regarded as convenient places for the cheap extraction of aching teeth for all applicants. Accordingly, the offer of treatment was restricted during the year to the number of children which was estimated would produce the maximum number of cases for treatment that could be dealt with satisfactorily by the diminished staff. Only 105 schools of the total of 183 schools, therefore, were dealt with during the year, and the average period between dental examinations of all schools within the dental scheme has now been extended to about 16-17 months.

This time-lag, unavoidable with an insufficient staff, must be considered to be one of the two unsatisfactory features of the dental scheme, the other being the relatively high rate of parental refusals of treatment. It is generally accepted that no scheme of school dental treatment can be wholly successful in its aims unless every child

embraced by the scheme is being examined and is receiving treatment when found necessary at short and regular intervals.

This truism receives striking support in the experience of Colomendy Camp School, where for the last two years examination and treatment of the children have been carried out twice yearly. Owing, no doubt, to the persuasive powers of the two Head Teachers, Mr. Pennycuik and Miss McDowell, refusals of treatment are unknown and, consequently, this school has furnished a most interesting example of the benefits to be obtained by children receiving regular observation and consistent treatment. March, 1942, was the first of the bi-annual visits and from that time the number of children found to require treatment at any one visit, and the number of permanent teeth it was found necessary to extract have consistently declined, as shewn by the following table:—

	Children requiring treatment.	Permanent teeth extracted.
March, 1942	520	168
October, 1942	424	85
May, 1943	398	75
January, 1944	355	24

In submitting his report on the work carried out at this School, Mr. Tyson says "Regular dental treatment pays a very handsome dividend. The Headmaster says that in his opinion time spent in the dental clinic during school hours is time well spent resulting in an improvement in the health of the children which enables them to absorb their lessons more readily and easily, thus more than making up for the few hours each year that are given up to treatment."

It is to be hoped that, after the war, when the services of more Dental Surgeons will become available, it may be found possible so to extend the dental staff, that the experience of this Headmaster may also become that of the Head Teachers of all the elementary schools in the City.

ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

19. Difficulty still continues to be encountered in obtaining regular attendance for treatment owing to the mothers being at work, and the attendances at the orthopædic clinics have shown a decrease of about 1,000 compared with those of the previous year.

There were 1,371 children under supervision, 633 of these being new cases, of which number 163 were seen at Walton Clinic, 276 at the Everton Road Clinic, and 194 at the Dingle House Clinic. Altogether these children made 9,941 attendances, either for examination by the surgeon or for massage or exercises, the average number of attendances per case for massage or remedial exercises being 12.6.

Arrangements were made for 17 cases to be admitted to hospital for treatment whilst 22 cases were referred to hospital for X-ray examination.

The following is a summary of the treatment carried out at the hospitals on the cases referred from the clinics:

Summary of Hospital Treatment, 1943.

Reduction of congenital dislocation of hip	...	...	1
Correction of deformities of feet or toes	....	....	3
Tenotomies or stretching	....	....	2
Osteotomies	....	....	3
Osteoclasis ...	...	...	1
Treatment of torticollis by operation	....	....	3
Treatment of spinal defects	....	....	1
Amputations	....	....	1
Other treatment	....	....	2
			<hr/>
			17
			<hr/>

20. The Child Welfare Association assisted the parents in obtaining new apparatus, surgically altered boots, repairs, etc., in 888 instances, whilst 351 pairs of boots for wearing with apparatus were supplied. The Association likewise assisted the work by supplying cod liver oil and arranging for convalescent treatment. The Association's visitors also undertook the following-up of cases, 245 visits being made for this purpose.

The accompanying table shews, in detail, the work carried out at the clinics:—

TABLE 2.

Cases dealt with under the Orthopædic Scheme during 1943.

Defect	Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits.					Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.						
	No. OF CASES			No. OF ATTENDANCES			No. OF CASES.			No. OF ATTENDANCES.		
	Clinic			Clinic			Clinic.			Clinic.		
	Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House.	Walton.	Everton Road.	TOTAL.
Infantile Paralysis	5	7	16	28	11	18	32	61	3	2	13	18
Birth Palsy ...	3	—	1	4	4	—	2	6	2	—	1	3
Spastic Paralysis	14	11	20	45	25	22	39	86	11	7	17	35
Rickets ...	66	45	60	171	94	83	85	262	5	9	4	18
Talipes ...	3	7	18	28	4	17	39	60	—	1	7	8
Spinal Curvature	13	6	18	37	27	14	34	75	9	5	13	27
Torticollis ...	6	7	19	31	11	12	13	36	3	3	3	9
Flat Feet ...	151	164	290	605	230	293	401	924	71	85	168	324
Other deformities	28	55	32	115	48	96	47	191	8	20	16	44
Other defects ...	83	96	105	284	126	167	158	451	32	55	42	129
No orthopædic defect found ...	15	6	14	35	15	6	14	35	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	387	403	581	1371	595	728	864	2187	144	187	284	615
									1864	2678	3212	7754

MINOR AILMENTS.

21. During the year, 32,005 cases were treated at the minor ailments clinics, necessitating 321,408 attendances having to be made by the children, the average number of attendances being 10.0 per child.

The number of cases reported as ringworm of the scalp was 49, which is a relatively large increase when compared with 9 during the previous year. Of these, 32 were treated by X-rays at the Belmont Road Hospital and 17 otherwise.

The number of cases of impetigo treated at the minor ailments clinics throughout the year was nearly 30 per cent. less than the number treated during the previous year, whilst the number of cases of blepharitis was approximately the same. The number of cases of conjunctivitis, which was unusually high last year, shewed a reduction of about 20 per cent. Otorrhoea, however, has shewn a further increase of about 10 per cent.

22. Scabies continues to be prevalent, 11,329 new cases amongst school children being reported. By the second-half of the year the disease appeared to be on the decline, the weekly average of new cases diagnosed being approximately 200. All contacts were followed-up, and as a result 2,364 pre-school children and 2,152 adults were diagnosed as suffering from scabies and were treated at the special clinics.

For the treatment of scabies there were available 12 centres, equipped with 38 baths. On an average 36 temporary and auxiliary nurses were engaged whole-time upon this work.

It was found necessary to refer 10 cases to the Public Health Department for action under the Scabies Order 1941.

Visits were paid by Inspectors from the Health Department in all these cases, and circular letters, requesting the examination of the family contacts were sent out to 9 of these cases.

In 5 instances following the circular letters Formal Notices had to be sent before the cases concerned presented themselves for medical

examination. It was not necessary to take legal proceedings under the Scabies Order in any of the cases.

The medicaments now being used in the treatment of scabies is the B.P. benzyl benzoate emulsion.

The school medical officers who supervise the work at these clinics carried out over 35,000 examinations.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

23. The number of children with some defects of vision found in the routine examinations of the third age group was 946 (16·6 per cent.), but only 316 of these (5·5 per cent.) required treatment. Among the entrants 494 were suspected of having defective vision, 420 of whom showed evidence of squint. The routine testing of the "Intermediate Group" children was not carried out, but such children who were suspected of having defective eyesight were brought to the notice of the school medical officers by the teachers or nurses, and as a result, 448 children were tested, 207 of whom were found to require treatment. In addition to the cases found amongst the children in the routine age groups, 788 were seen as special cases.

The number of new cases treated under the Committee's scheme was 1,736. The number re-examined at the clinics was 2,899. These numbers do not represent the total number of clinic attendances, since many children with amblyopia received intensive treatment, attending weekly, or oftener, over extended periods.

Under the arrangements made with the Hospitals and Port Health Committee for the treatment of squint in pre-school children, 2,000 children were examined by the oculist and glasses were provided in 202 of these cases.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS.

24. The Aural Clinics have been functioning regularly throughout the year and attendances have been satisfactory.

25. Mr. Yorke reports:—

"During the past four years, of 1,706 consecutive cases of acute and chronic suppurative middle ear disease, 89 were found to have

otic infection. In these cases, as the greater part of the drumhead is normal and as only the extreme upper part is involved, it is easy in routine examinations without full aural equipment to overlook the condition, more particularly as the perforation is usually very small and the discharge scanty.

“ This is the more serious as, of the 89 cases discovered, 21 had to be sent to hospital for radical operation, whilst of the remaining 6,617 cases only 87 were referred to hospital.”

During the current year 23 cases were considered by the Surgeon to require radical mastoid operations and these were accordingly referred to Alder Hey Hospital.

26. The following Table gives the types and numbers of cases treated at these clinics:—

TABLE 3.

Aural Clinics.

Number of children who attended for examination and treatment ... 1,619.
Total number of attendances at the clinics 5,969.

Diagnosis.	Total.	Dry or Healed.	Improved.	No treatment given.	Still under treatment.	Failed to complete treatment.	Referred to Hospital or own Doctor.	Referred to M.A.C. or other Clinics.	Referred to School for Deaf.
Otitis Media	265	172	—	12	41	30	9	1	—
Acute Media ...	463	235	—	45	67	107	5	4	—
Suppurating Media ...	289	40	—	1	69	142	36	—	1
Without Discharge ...	137	—	39	20	33	31	—	—	14
and other cases ...	140	22	36	29	8	36	2	7	—
Defects ...	325	—	81	42	48	94	50	10	—
TOTALS ...	1,619	469	156	149	266	440	102	22	15

1 Minor operations were also performed at these clinics for the removal of polypi, etc.

27. At the routine examinations of the public elementary school children, the number found to require treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids was 369, which represents a percentage of 2.46 of the children examined.

Apart from the cases discovered at the routine examinations, 161 other children were found to require treatment for one or both of these conditions. In addition, amongst the intermediate age group, who were surveyed in the first place by the nurses, 62 of these children were found on examination by the school medical officers to require treatment. In cases where the school medical officers were doubtful whether or not to recommend operative treatment, they were referred to the clinic for the opinion of the specialist. Out of 784 of such cases Mr. Yorke advised an operation in 492 (63 per cent.) of them.

Since 1940, children requiring operation for enlarged tonsils and adenoids have been treated at Alder Hey Hospital, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of beds it was considered necessary to secure additional accommodation. As foreshadowed in the previous Report, arrangements were made with the Hospitals and Port Health Committee whereby children could also be treated at Broadgreen Hospital, and these new arrangements came into operation in January last. During the year, 447 cases were treated at Broadgreen Hospital but only 92 at Alder Hey; a total of 539 cases as compared with 254 during the previous year.

The operations were as follows:—

	Alder Hey Hospital.	Broadgreen Hospital.	Total.
Tonsils only	33	1	34
Adenoids only	4	—	4
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	55	446	501
TOTAL	92	447	539

The children were admitted on the day prior to operations and discharged two or three days after their treatment.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

28. The total number of children at the end of the year who had been certified as blind was 31 of whom 19 were attending the Wavertree School for the Blind, 5 the Roman Catholic School for the Blind, Brunswick Road, and 7 at the Sunshine Homes.

29. Classes for partially-sighted children were held in the following centres: Christ Church C.E. School, Grant Road Council School, Underlea Day Open-Air School and Fazakerley Day Open-Air School. The number on the rolls at these classes at the end of the year was 50.

30. A group of deaf children continued to receive education at the old Queensland Street Special School to which they were temporarily transferred from the Crown Street School last year. At the end of the year this group numbered 78.

In addition, nearly 100 children were in residence, under the Government Evacuation Scheme, at the school established in Birkdale.

31. Five children were maintained by the Authority at the Homes for Epileptics, Maghull, during 1943. There were no new admissions during the period.

32. Since the war the Authority have had no residential school for delicate children. A number of such children have been admitted to the three evacuated residential Special Schools, and the Authority continues to make use of their 36 places at Torpenhow Open-Air School. The improvement in the general health of the children in these residential schools was again most marked.

The number of delicate children on the rolls of each of the day open-air schools at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fazakerley Open-Air School ...	...	...	92
Underlea Open-Air School ...	...	...	113
Margaret Beavan Open-Air School ...	...	...	102

A number of crippled children were also in attendance at these schools.

33. At the Alder Hey Hospital School 73 children were on the rolls at the end of the year, and there were 112 children in residence at the three above-mentioned residential special schools conducted for physically defective children in the reception areas.

34. The "crippled children" who remained in Liverpool numbered 278 at the year's end and they were being educated at 5 schools, Crown Street (84), Margaret Beavan (95), Fazakerley (28), Underlea (56), Grant Road (15).

35. The accompanying return shews the results of the examinations made by the certifying officers of children referred for admission to schools for physically defective children:—

Certified for Day Open-Air Schools	...	...	...	...	...	135
Certified for Day Special P.D. Schools	...	...	...	...	...	110
Certified for Residential P.D. Schools	...	...	...	...	...	87
Certified for Epileptic Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Postponed for further trial in elementary schools or for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	85
Unsuitable for any school	...	...	...	...	...	23
Referred for mental examination	...	...	...	...	...	5
To remain in elementary school	...	...	...	...	...	80
Total						<u>517</u>

36. Apart from the war-time schools in the reception areas, the Authority has no residential provision for feeble-minded children, but during the year 27 children were maintained in the following schools: Pontville Roman Catholic Special School (17), Allerton Priory Roman Catholic Special School (9) and Dovecot Horticultural School for Girls (1).

37. Two special schools in the reception area are being run as residential schools for feeble-minded children. The one at White Heather, Old Colwyn, accommodates the girls and younger boys, whilst that at Crookhey Hall, near Lancaster, is for the older boys.

The Head Teachers of each of the schools in the evacuation areas have submitted interesting reports on their year's work. From which it is clear that they are all impressed with the children's improvement in health, education and character formation.

The following are brief extracts from their reports:—

Miss Anderson, of Tyndwr Hall, writes:—"A party of Tyndwr boys after much searching, rediscovered the base of a Mediaeval Cross, which had been lost sight of for many years. We have roused the interest of the local Council who has asked our aid in searching for the lost pillar. On New Year's Day another party searched the Eglwaeg Rocks and located several Hut Circles which had become mere 'hearsays'. Residential Schools give unrivalled opportunities for practical work in History, Geography and Nature Study."

Miss Campbell, of Nant-y-Coed and Edward Malam Schools, as well as referring to the great improvements which took place in certain orthopaedic and heart cases, mentions that one of the pupils gained admission to a Secondary School and one to a Selective Central School.

Miss Travers, of Crookhey Hall, comments on the great improvement in health and physique of those boys who have been in residence for two or three years.

Miss Maguire, of White Heather, reports "a remarkable improvement" in the case of a nervous child "who was neglected and ill-treated at home. She has developed from a surly, aggressive, frightened child into a vivacious, friendly and bright little girl."

She concludes her Report as follows:—

"The tone, general bearing, and the improvement both in health and education are due entirely to the fact that this is a Residential School. The training given during school hours is continued throughout the evenings and at week-ends. This has an excellent effect on the children, an effect which it is not possible to obtain in a Day Special School."

38. There were 383 feeble-minded children attending the Richmond and Crown Street Day Special Schools and the special classes which were arranged for at Major Lester, Banks Road, Grant Road, Underlea and Fazakerley Schools. During the year the classes at Major Lester School were closed and the scholars transferred to other special schools.

39. The results of examinations made by the Certifying Officers of children referred for ascertainment of their mental capacity is as follows:—

Certified for Special Day School	...	...	...	...	...	110
Certified for Special Residential School	...	...	...	...	...	17
Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	68
Notified to L.M.H.B.	...	...	...	...	...	97
To remain in elementary schools	...	...	...	...	...	100
Total						392

40. The routine medical examinations and the general medical care of the special school children in the reception areas is carried out by local medical practitioners, whilst specialist and dental treatment is provided either under the Local Authorities' arrangements or, in a few instances, by special arrangements made in the reception areas.

All the medical and dental facilities of the School Medical Department are available for the special schools children, and the school medical officers devoted 153 sessions to this work in the course of which they carried out approximately 2,000 medical examinations of the children.

Under the Committee's schemes, 45 cases of defective vision were treated. In addition, 6 children were operated on for tonsils and adenoids, 13 were treated at the aural clinics, and in the case of children suffering from crippling defects, full use was made of the facilities available at the orthopædic clinics.

41. The following table shews the work carried out by the dental staff of the School Medical Department at the Special Schools, and at Sankey Approved School:—

TABLE 4.

	Special Schools.	Sankey Approved School.
Number of inspection sessions	12	4
Number of treatment sessions	39	28
Total number of sessions	51	32
Number of children inspected	817	249
Number of children requiring treatment	528	162
Number of children treated	(64·6%) 307	(69·0%) 110
Number of attendances made for treatment	331	155
Number of teeth extracted	967	190
Number of teeth filled	32	63
Number of other operations	19	110
Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	301	88

UNCLEANLINESS AND NEGLECT.

42. The school nurses made 510,817 examinations of school children with regard to cleanliness, and altogether 29,408 children were found to show some evidence of verminous infection or were very dirty. In the case of 1,731 children, statutory notices were served upon the parents owing to their failure to cleanse their children after previous notification, and 1,086 children were cleansed by the parents and 645 children had to be compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

The total number of attendances made at the cleansing stations during the year was 19,994, all being on account of verminous conditions.

43. At the routine examinations in the schools 9·6 per cent. of the boys and 27·7 per cent. of the girls were found to have evidence of infestation. These figures, whilst showing an improvement on the previous year's figures of 13·5 per cent. and 29·4 per cent. respectively, are more than double the figures of 1938 when only 4·5 per cent. of the boys and 13·1 per cent. of the girls were found to be infested.

44. Since the year 1940, when a marked increase occurred, additional temporary staff has been engaged. It was thus possible to carry out during 1943 over half a million examinations as a result of which nearly 30,000 children were found to be unclean.

45. The School Attendance Department have co-operated with the School Medical Department in investigating cases of neglect referred to them. In particular they have assisted in securing the regular attendance of school children at the scabies clinics.

Mr. Bridson, the Superintendent of the School Attendance and Care Department, states that—

“ During the period 1st January, 1943, to 31st January, 1944, the parents of 27 children were summoned for the neglect of their children. In 13 of these cases the children were suffering from sores and were verminous. Proceedings resulted as follows: In 11 cases fines £1 to £5 were imposed. One parent was bound over for twelve months, and sentences of imprisonment, ranging from one month to six months' hard labour were imposed in six instances. Two parents were discharged with a caution; two mothers were placed on probation for one and two years respectively, three cases were withdrawn and one dismissed.”

TUBERCULOSIS.

46. At the routine inspections in the schools there were discovered 1 definite case of pulmonary tuberculosis, 6 cases of tuberculous glands, and 16 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, a total of 23 cases, or .15 per cent., among the routine cases examined.

There were also seen at the inspection clinics, or as special cases at the schools, 6 definite or suspected pulmonary cases, and 21 cases of other forms of tuberculosis.

The number of cases discovered at the routine examinations is more than that discovered in 1942 though the numbers themselves afford no true comparison, but the incidence rate does shew an increase from .10 per cent. to .15 per cent.

All the cases of actual or suspected tuberculosis discovered by the school medical officers were referred to the tuberculosis officers for examination. The number of references so made was 127, whilst the Tuberculosis Département supplied information with reference to 823 school children who had been reported from other sources as possible cases of tuberculosis. Of these, 533 were new cases for the year and 406 were reported as non-tuberculous.

Early diagnosis is imperative in tuberculosis, because it is only in the early stages that the disease can be effectively controlled. With this object in view a scheme for mass radiology is to be introduced.

47. Recent legislation has brought into operation a scheme for maintenance allowances in certain cases of tuberculosis affecting adults. The purpose of this scheme is to encourage the patient to submit to treatment in the early stages of his illness. These measures will ultimately play a very material part in reducing the incidence of tuberculosis in all classes of the community and remove the most dangerous source of infection to the child, the existence of an infective case in the home.

48. Dr. Clarke, the Chief Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, writes:—

“ It is interesting to note that a decline in primary notifications of tuberculosis, all forms, in children (zero to 15 years) was evident up to 1940 (203), since when, however, this figure has steadily risen until in 1943, I find we have a total of 278 notifications (pulmonary 111, non-pulmonary 167). This would, of course, be in keeping with the general trend as there has been a steady increase in notification in other age groups since the outbreak of war, and one can only assume that the decline in cases of children up to 1940 was associated with evacuation, and it is probable that the increase since that date is in no little part associated with the return of children from evacuation areas, though I have no precise figure relating to this. The condition of children who have received residential treatment during the year has been satisfactory, over 90 per cent. of cases having shewn no signs of re-activation.”

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.

49. There were 4,032 cases of infectious disease reported amongst school children of school age during the year, this being a decrease of 1,738 cases compared with the previous year. The greatest decreases were reported in cases of measles (1,185 cases) and diphtheria (607), whilst whooping cough showed an increase of 227 and scarlet fever 187 cases.

It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year on account of infectious disease.

The arrangements made in previous years for the inoculation against diphtheria of the children attending the infants' departments of the elementary schools were extended to cover all departments and also to include secondary schools. For this purpose visits were paid to 119 elementary schools and departments, and to 11 secondary schools. The total number of school children inoculated at the elementary schools was 12,562, and at the secondary schools 1,235. In addition, a considerable number of children of school age were inoculated at the various immunisation clinics held throughout the city.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

50. The percentage of parents attending at the examinations of their children as entrants and leavers were 76·4 per cent. and 18·0 per cent., respectively. The percentage for other ages was 21·6 per cent.

In connection with the following-up of cases, 41,708 notices were sent from the office to parents.

51. PARENTS' PAYMENTS.—About the middle of the year the fee for dental treatment was raised from 6d. to 1s. This increased charge does not appear to have had any effect either upon the number of applications received or the number applying for free treatment.

The charges made by the Committee for other forms of treatment which they provided remained the same as previously provided.

The following amounts were received during the year 1943 as parental contributions towards the cost of treatment indicated:—

						£	s.	d.
Defective vision...	...	...	...	...	...	933	7	8
Dental defects ...	...	...	...	...	...	878	13	6
Tonsils and adenoids ...	...	...	...	...	...	260	5	3
Ringworm of the scalp	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	0
TOTAL...						£2,079	14	5

52. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.—During the year a total of 2,952 children (2,909 boys and 43 girls) were engaged in part-time employment. The school medical officers examined 576 children as to their fitness to undertake work before school hours and in 13 cases the undertaking of this part-time work was not recommended on medical grounds.

During the year the Sub-Committee, dealing with the licensing of children, granted 25 theatrical licences.

53. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT.—In accordance with the arrangements made under Section 35 of the Children and Young Persons Act (1933), medical reports, for the information of the Magistrates in the Juvenile Courts at Liverpool and district and in certain reception areas, were submitted in 2,145 cases.

During the year, 238 cases were specially examined at the request of the Magistrates, and out of 101 of these, in which a report upon the mental condition had been requested, 92 were seen by Dr. F. P. Irvine, one of the Certifying Officers approved by the Board of Education. The remaining cases were examined by the medical officers to the Remand Homes.

HIGHER SCHOOLS.

54. The number of schools visited during the year was 25, and the number of medical inspections carried out was much smaller than that of previous years, owing to the depletion of medical staff. The examinations were limited mainly to the new admissions, and the following are the figures:—

Routine cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,214
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Special cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	149

The number of routine cases having defects for which they were referred for treatment was 479 (11·3 per cent.), some of these having multiple defects. Defects of the nose and throat were noted in 430 (10·2 per cent.), ear disease in 167 (3·9 per cent.) and organic heart disease in 55 (1·3 per cent.) of the children.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

55. The following paragraphs are extracted from a full report by the Juvenile Employment Bureau in July, 1943.

56. The elimination of most forms of production not closely connected with the war effort has become increasingly reflected in the restriction in the variety of openings available to juveniles, which limits, in no small measure, the choice of career available to so many of the young people now entering the employment field. Except in the case of secondary school pupils anxious to undertake specialised work, this curtailment of choice, however, does not affect girls to the same extent as boys, a high percentage of whom have, after a period of waiting, been forced to the conclusion that an unwished-for outlet for their services must be accepted. The prevailing conditions arising from the war have further prevented any expansion of the Committee's activities in the sphere of juvenile employment and rendered the past year somewhat uneventful. The demand for suitably qualified juveniles, or for those prepared to accept the type of work available, has always been slightly in excess of the supply, but none the less few employers, except those badly placed geographically, have been faced with an acute shortage of juvenile labour. There has been a marked disinclination on the part of many boys to take up office work while a strong tendency has been noticeable for work closely connected with the war effort. The lowering of the age of eligibility for national service has resulted in older boys—and to some extent girls—being increasingly difficult to place owing to the reluctance of employers to train personnel they cannot hope to retain for more than a short period. The lack of opportunity for getting to sea in the merchant service has resulted in a considerable amount of dissatisfaction among those attracted to a seafaring career and has caused many to volunteer for the Navy as soon as the appropriate age has been reached. Apprenticeships in engineer-

ing and other skilled trades have been difficult to obtain. Indeed, most employers are so anxious to maintain output at as high a level as possible that, generally speaking, only the minimum of training to ensure efficiency on a particular process is provided. Perhaps the most disturbing feature is the stagnation in the Building Industry, and there is no doubt that the greatest relief to the juvenile employment position in Liverpool would be afforded by the introduction of at least a limited building programme, thus providing a means of absorbing many of the boys completing the courses at the Junior Technical Schools and other boys with inclinations and attainments suitable for that trade. Inability to settle in any work, absenteeism, bad time-keeping and other forms of misbehaviour on the part of a small group who frequently change their jobs causes concern to the Bureau Officers and irritation to employers. On the other hand, the large majority of boys who cannot obtain the employment of their choice, are manfully meeting their war-time obligations, buoyed up, no doubt, by the hope that, in post-war years, they will be able in some measure to make good what they have now been denied.

57. The Committee have always strongly held the view that the best basis for good juvenile advisory work is laid when parents, young people, teachers and officers are able to confer on the choice of a suitable career. Indeed, no scheme can be considered complete unless it takes into full account the educational report and the intimate knowledge of the teacher who has been in contact with the child during the latter years of his school life. In order to ensure that as far as practicable every boy and girl leaving school should be given individual advice, Bureau Officers made 812 visits to elementary schools, 4 to junior technical schools and 7 to central schools for the purpose of holding school conferences. 9,782 juveniles (4,821 boys and 4,961 girls) were interviewed and advised in this manner. Despite the increasing calls upon their time, teachers have always been interested in the future careers of their scholars, and their willing co-operation enabled the officers to visualise more readily and advise more clearly on the most suitable type of employment for each young person concerned. It is also gratifying to record that in these days of war-time stress in the homes, no fewer than 541 parents attended the interviews.

A copy of the recently-compiled leaflet is now handed to each school-leaver, and many head teachers have commented very favourably on this leaflet, expressing the view that it fulfils a long-felt want and that it conveys in a simple manner the information most likely to be of value to young people.

58. In view of the expansion of the war-time Nursery service and of the need for attracting an increasing number of girls to nursing as a career, no opportunity was neglected of supporting the National Appeal by circulars to schools, contacts with girls who at the time of interview under the Registration of Boys and Girls Order expressed an interest in nursing, and by direct approach to girls registered at the Bureau. As a result a considerable number of younger girls were accepted as trainee nursery nurses, while a few in the older group were accepted as probationers in various local hospitals and institutions. In order to provide preliminary training for girls who appear to have an aptitude and inclination for nursing, a part-time pre-nursing course for training was established in May at the Wavertree Day Trade School and a similar course will commence at the Stanley Park School in October. It is, however, regretted that the number of registrants for the proposed full-time day training course was so small that the course had to be abandoned.

59. It was possible to maintain to some extent the practice of holding school conferences, and 14 visits were made to secondary schools by a bureau officer who interviewed and advised on employment matters 327 pupils (76 boys, 251 girls). The demand for youths of good attainments for clerical work continued throughout the year but boys shewed less inclination than usual for commercial work, preference being expressed for industrial (mainly engineering) apprenticeships. There being so few vacancies of this kind and few boys being willing to consider employment outside the city, many boys gravitated to factories engaged on war production with the intention of keeping up their studies in order to prepare for work offering greater scope in the future.

60. The majority of girls shewed a preference for commercial work, and there was evidence that parents preferred their girls to have some form of specialised commercial education before entering actual employ-

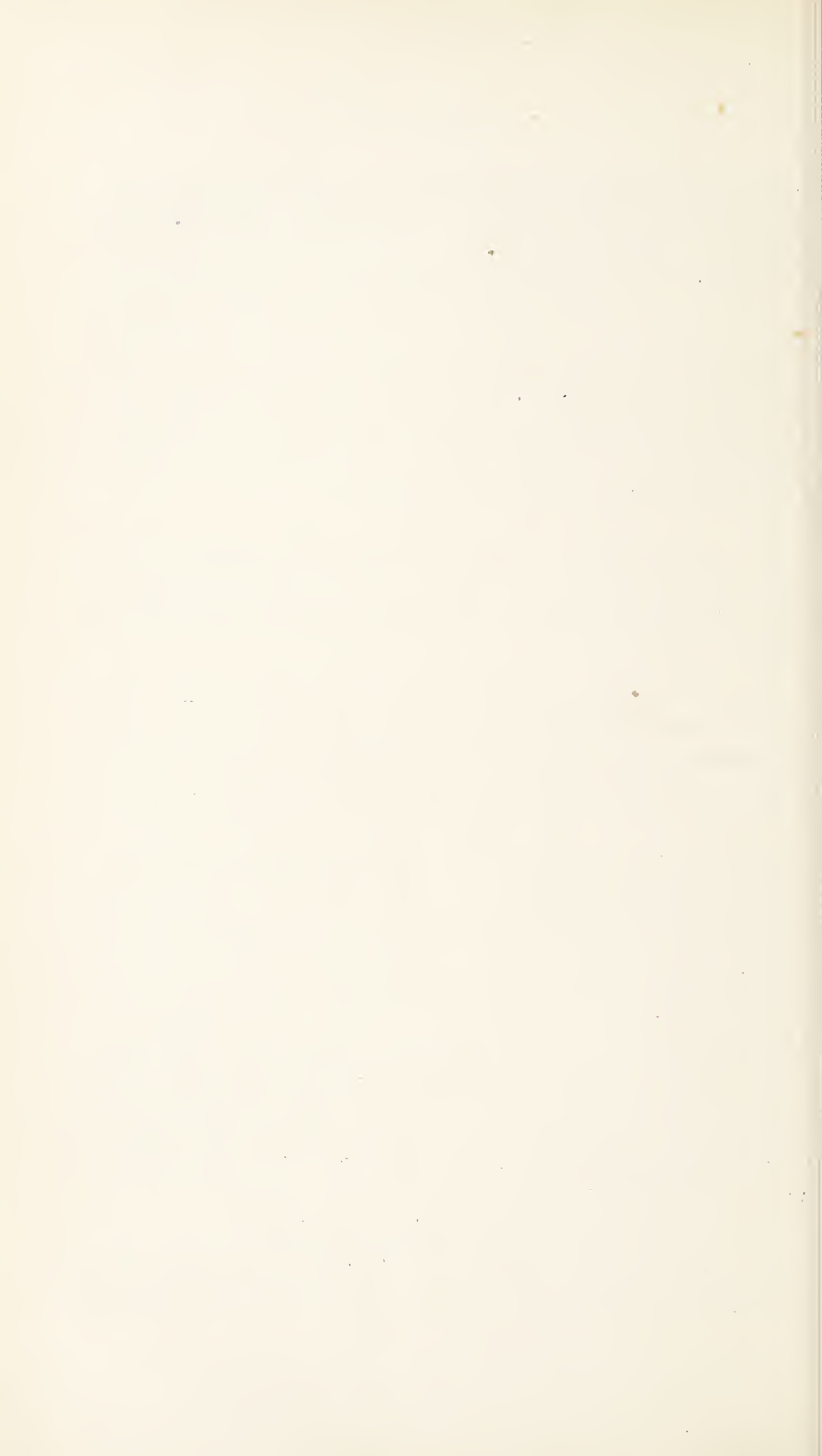
ment. There was a small demand for girls for the light engineering industry but, in general, this type of work made little appeal, and some difficulty was experienced in filling vacancies. Nursing as a career was brought to the notice of suitable girls from secondary schools but little success attended these efforts. In some cases parents would not approve of the choice, while in others it was considered that alternative employment, chiefly commercial, which girls found it necessary to take up until reaching the minimum age for General Hospital training, would probably prove too attractive, and they would, ultimately, abandon the idea of entering nursing as a career, except where the call of this vocation was strong and lasting.

61. A total of 592 secondary school pupils were assisted to obtain their first post (287 boys and 305 girls) while a further 51 boys and 52 girls, a total of 103, returned to employment by introduction from the Bureau.

62. The year has been one of continued activity in war-time duties of the Bureau, and, whilst a spirit of restlessness and indiscipline has been noticed among some juveniles using the Bureau, and a few complaints received from parents regarding the waywardness of their children, especially youths 16/17 years of age, no doubt can be entertained that the very large majority of young people are shouldering, without complaint, their share of the war effort. There was no evidence of health being impaired as a result of war-time conditions, due possibly to the greater willingness of employers to study the welfare of their workers. In spite of the more arduous and, in many cases, more repetitive and monotonous work undertaken by them, young people have stood up to their tasks. Their spirit has been good and augurs well for the post-war years when, it is hoped, they will be under fewer restrictions and be afforded the opportunity of that vocational training and choice, which has been denied to so many through entering the employment field when the first consideration was the maximum output for the good of the nation.

W. M. FRAZER,

*Medical Officer to the
Education Authority.*



Appendix A.**BOARD OF EDUCATION.****MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT
RETURNS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1943.****TABLE I.****MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.****A.—Routine Medical Inspections.**

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	9,221
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	Not Inspected	
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	5,686
Other Ages	...	...	...	...	...	107
Total						<u>15,014</u>

B.—Other Inspections.NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS... *139,261

* This figure includes 25,342 inspections of Scabies cases.

TABLE II.**CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15,014	893	6·0	13,906	92·6	215	1·4	Nil	—

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness for which see Table V).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, *43,334.

* This figure includes 11,329 Scabies cases.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group I).

	No. of Defects dealt with under the Authority's Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint)	4,635
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	5
Total	4,640
No. of Children for whom spectacles were :	
(a) Prescribed	3,043
(b) Obtained	2,911

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		
Received Operative Treatment under the Authority's Scheme, or Clinic or Hospital. (1)	Received other forms of Treatment. (2)	Total number treated. (3)
519	—	519

TABLE IV.**DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.**

1) Number of Children Inspected :—			
(a) Routine Age groups	.....		47,791
(b) Specials	.....		3,631
(c) Total (Routines and Specials)	.....		51,422
(2) Number found to require treatment	.....		36,515
(3) Number actually treated	.....		18,723
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	.....		26,372
(5) Half-days devoted to	{ Inspection 323 } *Treatment 3,615	Total ...	3,938
* Includes 1,295 sessions in which a Dental Officer acted as Anæstheticist.			
(6) Fillings :—	{ Permanent Teeth 4,990 } Temporary Teeth —	Total ...	4,990
(7) Extractions :—	{ Permanent Teeth 13,077 } Temporary Teeth 41,391	Total ...	54,768
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions	.....		17,565
(9) Other Operations :—	{ Permanent Teeth 1,060 } Temporary Teeth —	Total ...	1,060

TABLE V.**VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	83.0
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	510,817
(3) Number of individual children found unclean	29,408
(4) Number of individual children cleansed under the Liverpool Corporation Act	19,994
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws	Nil

TABLE VI.**BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.**

	(1) At a Public Elementary School.	(2) At an Institution other than a Special School.	(3) At no School or Institution.	(4) Total not receiving suitable Education.
Blind Children ...	—	—	1	—
Deaf Children ...	1	—	—	—

NOTE: Arrangements were in hand for the admission of these children to appropriate schools.

TABLE VII.
SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF, LIVERPOOL
on 31st December, 1943.

Name of Officer.	Permanent or Temporary.	Proportion of time devoted to	
		School Medical Service.	Public Health.
School Medical Officer. Dr. W. M. Frazer (also M.O.H.)	Permanent	Not assessable	Whole- time.
Chief Assistant S.M.O. Dr. R. Gamlin	"	Whole-time	Nil
Assistant S.M.O.s. Dr. Ethelwyn M. Walters	"	"	"
Dr. Helen Keith	"	"	"
Dr. Mary F. Lacey	"	"	"
Dr. Grace E. McConkey	"	"	"
Dr. F. P. Irvine	"	"	"
Dr. Lucy H. E. Moroney	Temporary	"	"
Dr. Marjorie Glyn-Hughes.....	"	"	"
Dr. Lilian W. Massey (Mrs. Hughes)	"	"	"
Dr. Hilda A. Channon	"	"	"
Dr. Susan H. Montgomery	"	"	"
Dr. Mary C. Lydon	"	Part-time 5 sessions per week	"
NOTE.—The eight male Assistant S.M.Os. who have been called up for service in H.M. Forces are not included above.			
Senior School Dental Officer. Mr. T. H. Parsons	Permanent	Whole-time	Two dentists devote approximately one session per week each to the treatment of ante- and post-natal cases for the Public Health Department (M. & C. W.).
Assistant School Dental Officers. Mr. F. C. Littleton	"	"	
Mr. A. Brewer	"	"	
Mr. G. E. Nevins.	"	"	
Mr. E. Crosbie	"	"	
Miss C. C. Sloan	Temporary	Whole-time	
Mr. J. A. Bell	} Temporary part-time	6	
Mr. J. P. Blacoe		6	
Mr. H. W. Martin		5	
Mr. A. E. Watson		3	
NOTE.—The seven Dental Officers who have been called up for service in H.M. Forces, and the three who have been lent to Receiving Authorities are not included above.			

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF on 31st December, 1943.

(Excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopaedic Nurses).

	Number of Officers.	Aggregate of time given to S.M.S. work in terms of whole-time officers.
School Nurses	52 Permanent* 38 Temporary	90
District Nurses	Nil	Nil
Nursing Assistants	18 Temporary (6 are half-time)	15
Dental Attendants	4	4

*Not including 5 in H.M. Forces.

Appendix B.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING
HIGHER SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS—

Age.							Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
8 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	71	136
9 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	88	155
10 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	111	172	283
11 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	492	549	1,041
12 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	387	477	864
13 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	327	203	530
14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	469	142	611
15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	321	175	496
16 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	33	78
17 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	12	20
TOTAL							2,292	1,922	4,214

B.—Other Inspections.

NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS 247

HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the
Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All Routine Inspections	4,214	315	7·5	3,889	92·3	10	0·2	—	—

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR
UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, 15.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	Number of Defects dealt with.
	Under the Authority's Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint).....	408
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).....	—
Total	408

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Number of children for whom spectacles were	
(a) Prescribed	236
(b) Obtained	228

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.

Received Operative Treatment.		Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
9	—	—	9



Appendix C.

REPORT BY THE INSPECTOR OF PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR THE YEAR, 1943.

1. Noteworthy progress has been made during the year towards the restoration in schools of physical training activities on a scale comparable with that of pre-war years. Efforts made by the Committee to secure the release of school premises occupied by various civil defence services have met with some success, with the result that a larger amount of free space has become available for physical training in halls and gymnasia, with a corresponding increase in the playground areas used for the out-of-doors section of this valuable part of the schools' curriculum. The teachers have striven hard and successfully to combat the difficult position resulting from the call-up of many men teachers for service with H.M. Forces, and considerable ingenuity has been shown in taking advantage of the limited supplies of games material and equipment which now reach the schools.

2. **Physical Exercises.** Evidence of the progress referred to in the preceding paragraph is provided by the fact that, in the senior and junior departments of elementary schools, the average time devoted each week to physical training on school premises in accordance with the Board of Education syllabus rose from 84·5 minutes in 1942 to 106·75 minutes in 1943. Regular lessons in physical training were given throughout the year in school playgrounds and (where available) in gymnasia and halls equipped with the necessary apparatus.

It may be noted here that 44 schools organised athletic meetings during the summer months (as against a corresponding number of 30 last year), and that 6 schools found it possible to promote swimming galas.

3. **Organised Games.** The majority of the senior and junior departments of elementary schools took part in organised games in playing fields and parks during the year, though facilities were somewhat restricted by the fact that rather more than one-third of the acreage available for this purpose prior to the war is at present under cultiva-

tion. Many children attending schools in the densely-populated areas of the City were enabled by the Committee's grant of free tram tickets to visit playing spaces; 33 school departments availed themselves of these facilities, and tickets to the value of £350 were provided by the Committee for the purpose.

4. **School Holiday Camps.** Some 250 necessitous children were assisted, by means of grants-in-aid at the rate of 15s. for each leader and 10s. for each scholar, to take part in camping holidays organised by their teachers during the Midsummer holiday period. Seven camps received financial help in this manner (as against four in 1942), and reports by the organisers show that problems relating to food rationing and accommodation were successfully overcome.

The Committee also made a grant of approximately £120 in aid of the Liverpool Child Welfare Association's scheme for sending poor children to holiday camps in North Wales and Cheshire.

5. **Swimming Instruction.** The attendance of school children at public baths (swimming plunges, slipper baths and spray baths) again reached a gratifyingly high level. Sixteen establishments were used during the year, and although the facilities offered were naturally restricted by cuts in fuel supplies and by reductions in the staffs of the respective baths, over 62,000 more attendances were recorded than in 1942. The following figures summarise statements submitted by the Corporation Baths Committee:—

Total attendances at Swimming Plunges, 1943.				Total attendances at Slipper and Spray Baths, 1943.			
Summer months.		Winter months.		Summer months.		Winter months.	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
118,758	56,036	34,817	6,508	932	681	853	599
174,794		41,325		1,613		1,452	
216,119				3,065			
Grand Total—219,184.							

Children are now requested by the Baths Committee to provide their own towels whenever possible.

Returns by Head Teachers show that in October, 1943, 3,975 boys and 1,955 girls were able to swim at least 25 yards. These figures compare favourably (especially in the case of the girls) with the corresponding totals of 3,741 and 1,408 in 1942.

6. Evening Play Centres. The Committee's officers kept in view the needs of the children of women war-workers for out-of-school care. The evening play centre system was extended and developed during the year with this purpose in mind and in particular to bridge the gap between the closure of afternoon school at 4 o'clock and the time when the working mother is able to return home. Six additional centres were provided and opportunities were also taken from time to time to extend the existing centres so as to permit of their opening on five evenings weekly.

By the end of the year, 20 centres (meeting from approximately 4.0 p.m. to 6.0 p.m. on Monday-Friday inclusive) were in operation. The average attendance of children each evening at all centres varied between 2,500 and 3,000.

Light refreshments—consisting of tea, milk, cocoa, cakes, etc.—were provided (by arrangement with the Children's Meals Department) at four centres where there was a demand for this service. It is probable that the scheme will shortly be extended to cover further centres.

Every effort was made to make the centres as attractive as possible, and a wide range of recreative and educational subjects (embracing indoor and outdoor games, boxing, table tennis, cricket, rounders, football, craft work, needlework, music classes, etc.) were made available.

A number of schools were also opened as play centres during the Summer and Autumn holidays, again to cater for the children of women on war work. Attendances at those centres were, however, disappointing as the majority of the children seemed to prefer making their own arrangements for spending the holidays.

7. **Classes for Teachers.** A number of courses in the theory and practice of Physical Training have been held during the year; over 40 teachers took part in each of the following:—

Course.	Instructor.	Period.
Infants' Teacher	Miss R. Catton	January—March
Juniors' Teachers	Miss M. W. Edwards	do.
	{ Miss M. W. Edwards	do.
	Miss M. B. Tod	do.
	Miss M. B. Tod	October onwards.
Seniors Teacher (Specialising in the use of an equipped gymnasium).	Miss M. I. Crabbe ...	do.

In addition to the above, three courses of practice and instruction in English, Scottish and Irish country dancing were successfully organised during the year, and were appreciated by a number of teachers and club leaders. Classes of this type fully merit the designation of “ refresher ” courses; they are the means of promulgating fresh ideas in method and organisation, and of stimulating the teachers to maintain their work in the schools at an interesting pitch.

8. **Evening Institutes and Youth Organisations.** The Committee's Inspector of Evening Schools reports that facilities for physical training and for dancing (folk dancing, country dancing and ballroom dancing) again attracted large numbers of juveniles of both sexes belonging to the social and recreative sections of the Evening Institutes. During the Session 1943-44, 34 of those club sections were conducted and, in each, physical training and dancing were two of the most popular activities.

Physical training has also been a popular activity in voluntary youth organisations. Early difficulties in securing blacked-out halls or gymnasias for clubs organising physical training classes have gradually been overcome, and a great many youth clubs have been enabled, by the

assistance of the Education Committee, to provide classes in this subject; in fact, practically every youth organisation (to the number of approximately 200) is now providing some form of physical training for its members. In addition, all pre-service training units—Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, Civil Defence Cadets, Sea Cadets, Merchant Navy Cadets, Girls' Training Corps and the Junior Girls' Training Corps—require their members to attend classes in physical training.

A relatively high proportion of juveniles of the 14-20 age group are thus taking part in one form or another of "keep-fit" activities.

9. The Work of the Teachers' Associations. Organised games and sports competitions, after school hours and on Saturdays, have been conducted for a number of years by four distinct Sports' Committees, representative of the Teachers' Associations:—

(a) The Liverpool and District Teachers' Association (controlling the activities of girls);

(b) The Liverpool Association of Schoolmasters (controlling the activities of boys).

(c) The Catholic Elementary Schools' Athletic Association, for the benefit of boys and girls attending the Catholic schools of the City; and

(d) The Liverpool Schools' Football Association (controlling all football competitions for boys).

(a) The hon. secretary of the Sports Committee of the Liverpool and District Teachers' Association reports that a considerable number of schools entered for swimming trials during 1943, and that 1,161 certificates of proficiency in swimming were issued. The time was not considered ripe for the promotion of after-school rounders competitions, mainly on account of the difficulties of evening travel; friendly matches of netball and rounders were, however, played between neighbouring schools where opportunities offered.

(b) Owing to war-time difficulties, no league or knock-out competitions in cricket, baseball and athletics were organised by the Liverpool Association of Schoolmasters' Sports Committee; the hon. secretary, how-

ever, reports that friendly games were played between neighbouring schools. Several boys gained swimming certificates whilst others were coached in life-saving.

The Committee's bronze medallions for gallantry were awarded during the year to two boys—William Prior and Stanley Falshaw—who attend the Finch Hall Council School; for the part they played in the rescue from drowning of a comrade who had got into difficulties in the water of a deep pit; the first-named boy effected a very plucky rescue after Stanley Falshaw had made a gallant but unsuccessful attempt.

(c) and (d) The hon. secretary of the Liverpool Schools Football Association reports that the 1943-44 season was the most successful since the outbreak of war. Although only 27 schools participated in the "open" leagues, the entry was representative of all ages and areas of the City. Three leagues of "under 14" teams were formed, and a comprehensive programme of matches was played; a "knock-out competition" was organised and completed and a junior league for boys under 11 years of age was also arranged. In the Catholic leagues, 12 teams lined up in two leagues (North and South), and played through a separate competition in each half of the season. Championship games were played-off at the Anfield Football Ground. The standard of play was markedly high in all leagues.

It is evident that most boys' schools, through the shortage of male staff, have been playing under difficulties. But the remaining men teachers who have carried on this voluntary work so well—notwithstanding the many calls on their spare time by various forms of national service—are deserving of great credit.

The experiment of running a City team met with complete success. Matches were played with Leicester (drawn), Ellesmere Port (won), Sheffield (won) and Bolton (won), school boys; and many practice games took place with Liverpool secondary schools, boys' clubs, evening schools, etc.

The Schoolmasters' Sports Committee claim, not without pride, that "once again Liverpool has led the way, and that their invitations to

other towns have re-awakened interest in schoolboys' football, with beneficial results."

It is suggested that a letter expressing the Education Committee's appreciation of the extent and value of the voluntary work performed by members of the four Associations mentioned above be sent to the hon. secretary of each Association.

A. E. HARRIS,
Inspector of Physical Training.

C. F. MOTT,
Director of Education.

June, 1944.

